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### Mark your Calendar

#### October 12 — SIYAC Conference Call

The State of Iowa Youth Advisory Council (SIYAC) will be holding a conference call at 9pm on Wednesday October 12th, 2011.

#### October 27– 29 — Iowa Youth Congress

The Iowa Youth Congress (IYC) annual event will take place from October 27th through the 29th in Des Moines. Students will be running a mock House Session on Friday the 28th in the Iowa House Chamber, there will be an award banquet Friday night and a planning session on Saturday. For more information or to make a contribution to keep IYC going strong contact [Sara Schoneberg](#).

Want your event in the next issue? Contact [Andrea Hall](#) with a date, location, and short description.

#### Red Ribbon Week

Red Ribbon Week is the oldest and largest drug prevention campaign in the country, and will take place this year from October 22-30th. This week is used to promote the hopes and dreams of youth over the life changing consequences of drug and alcohol abuse. And, perhaps more importantly, Red Ribbon Week commemorates the ultimate sacrifice made by DEA Special Agent Enrique "Kiki" Camarena, who died at the hands of drug traffickers in Mexico while fighting the battle against illegal drugs to keep our country and children safe. You can learn more at [imdrugfree.com](http://imdrugfree.com) or at the [DEA's website](#). There are also great prevention materials available at [Pact360](#).

#### Global Report Card

Have you seen the latest version of the Global Report Card? This interactive website provides information on every U.S. school district and allows for comparisons against other schools in your state, other schools in the country and other schools in the world. The Global Report Card was developed by Jay P. Greene and Josh B. McGee as part of the George W. Bush Institute's Education Reform Initiative. The goal of the Report Card is to push for education reform within the U.S. school system. Go online and see how your district stacks up at the [Global Report Card](#).

#### Meet the New SIYAC Coordinator

Renée Mallo will begin the role as SIYAC Coordinator on November 1st, 2011, for her initial one year term of service as a new AmeriCorps VISTA member. Renée is coming to Iowa's Department of Human Rights after recently completing her Master of Science degree in School Counseling at the University of Wisconsin-Stout. Prior to attending graduate school Renée also earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. Her past experience has included various professional internships and volunteer work that have provided her with opportunities to help young people reach their full potential, develop valuable leadership skills and contribute to their communities in meaningful ways. A detailed outline of her educational background and work history can be found at [www.linkedin.com/in/reneemallo](http://www.linkedin.com/in/reneemallo).



Renee Mallo, Coordinator

Want to submit an article or resource? Email [Andrea Hall](#) with a link and description.

#### SIYAC Update



The State of Iowa Youth Advisory Council had a fantastic 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Meeting on September 26, 2011 at the Iowa State Capitol Building. The members were able to hear from members of the Iowa Department of Public Health, the Department of Education, and the Youth Tobacco Prevention Initiative. Four committees were voted on and members divided themselves into an Education Policy Committee, Health & Wellness Committee, Student Safety Committee, and Environmental Policy Committee. These areas will be the focus of SIYAC in the upcoming year. For a full list of members click [here](#). Please visit the [SIYAC website](#) for more information or contact the coordinator at [andrea.hall@iowa.gov](mailto:andrea.hall@iowa.gov).